

June 14, 2022

The Honorable Bob Archuleta California State Senate 1021 O Street, Suite 6720 Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Support for SB 277 (Archuleta)—Fireworks: Dangerous Fireworks: Seizure: Management

Dear Senator Archuleta,

On behalf of the City of Long Beach, I write to support Senate Bill 277. This bill would require the State Fire Marshal to oversee protocols regarding seized fireworks statewide. As illegal fireworks can have detrimental impacts to the quality of life for residents, particularly for individuals suffering from Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder, and can cause serious personal injury, structural damage, and hazardous air quality, the City appreciates the increased State actions proposed by SB 277.

Fireworks are illegal in the City of Long Beach, except for professional use. The City coordinates public service announcements, press releases, and social media campaigns communicating that all fireworks are dangerous and illegal in Long Beach. The City deploys enhanced Long Beach Fire Department and Long Beach Police Department patrols to respond to fireworks-related service calls and issue citations for fireworks violations.

Despite efforts to curb the illegal sale and possession of fireworks in Long Beach, enforcement remains a serious challenge as neighboring cities not only have incompatible ordinances regarding the prohibition of fireworks, but also implement different enforcement mechanisms and penalties. Therefore, the City supports legislation that would expand restrictions on fireworks. Given these reasons, the City supports SB 277.

Sincerely.

Mayor Robert Garcia City of Long Beach

cc: The Honorable Speaker Anthony Rendon, State Assembly
The Honorable Lena Gonzalez, State Senate, 33<sup>rd</sup> District
The Honorable Tom Umberg, State Senate, 34th District

The Honorable Steven Bradford, State Senate, 35th District

The Honorable Mike Gipson, State Assembly, 64th District

The Honorable Patrick O'Donnell, State Assembly, 70th District